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S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 TRIPOLI 000415

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 5/22/2019
TAGS: PREL PTER MOPS LY
SUBJECT: FM KUSA SUPPORTIVE OF ENGAGEMENT WITH U.S. AFRICA COMMAND --
WITHIN LIMITS

TRIPOLI 00000415 001.2 OF 002

CLASSIFIED BY: Gene A. Cretz, Ambassador, Embassy Tripoli, Department of State. REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)

- 1.(S) Summary. Foreign Minister-equivalent Musa Kusa told visiting Commander of U.S. Africa Command General William Ward that Libya supports er
- 2.(S) On May 21, Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation (GPCFLIC) (Foreign Minister) Mus
- 3.(S) After a brief exchange of pleasantries, Kusa asked Gen. Ward for his views on Africa. Gen. Ward replied that the African continent is hom
- 4.(S) Turning to security issues, Kusa said that he naturally was well aware of security issues affecting the continent as he had spent the bet
- 5.(S) Kusa said that Libya remains committed to such engagements and to encouraging multilateral cooperation, emphasizing that he has long been
- 6.(S) Kusa said that the presence of U.S. forces in Africa could be more harmful than helpful, as they would likely draw young extremists or we
- 7.(S) Addressing the overall bilateral military to military relationship, Kusa said that son of the Libyan leader and National Security Advisor
- 8.(S) In response, Gen. Ward said that he appreciated the good meetings that he had with Mu'tassim and that he appreciated Kusa's comments on t
- 9.(S) Kusa commented that he saw areas of possible cooperation where both sides shared common objectives, especially regarding political and se
- 10.(S) Kusa raised what he characterized as the threat posed by the increasing presence of Chinese in Africa. Although Chinese do not interfere
- 11.(S) Kusa concluded the meeting by stating that the U.S. military engagement with Libya is positive and should continue. The Libyan leadershi

¶12. This cable was cleared by the U.S. Africa Command. CRETZ